

REPORT

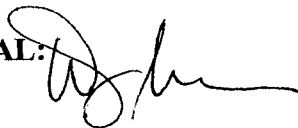
DATE: April 5, 2007

TO: Transportation and Communications Committee (TCC)

FROM: Naresh Amatya, Program Manager, 213-236-1885, amatya@scag.ca.gov

SUBJECT: Proposed Amendment to the 2004 RTP

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S APPROVAL:



RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Request the Executive Committee authorize release of the proposed amendment to the 2004 RTP in May for a 30-day Public Review and adopt it in June 2007.

BACKGROUND:

In November of 2006, the voters of California approved Measure 1B, a \$20 billion state bond measure to support much needed transportation infrastructure improvements throughout the state. \$4.5 billion was set aside from Measure 1B for the Corridor Mobility Improvement Account (CMIA), which focuses on improving mobility, connectivity and safety on major California highways. The California Transportation Commission (CTC) adopted the funding program for CMIA projects on February 28, 2007.

Projects that are funded through the CMIA program must be consistent with the existing Regional Transportation Plans. While most of the projects that were approved for funding under this program in our region came out of SCAG's current 2004 RTP, inevitably, there are a couple of new projects and several that have minor changes in project scope, cost or schedule. This has necessitated an amendment to the 2004 RTP to reflect those changes so that these projects can move forward in a timely manner. In addition to those changes, SCAG has also received several amendment requests from Caltrans as well as some of the county transportation commissions to accommodate other project changes that are time sensitive as well.

The proposed amendment will be submitted to FHWA for certification under the pre-SAFETEA-LU statute since the 2004 RTP does not currently conform to the requirements of SAFETEA-LU. The statutory deadline to make changes to the current RTP under the old statute is July 1, 2007. Therefore, SCAG must adopt and submit this amendment to FHWA prior to this date. In order to meet this deadline, a draft of this amendment must be released for a 30-day Public Review by early May.

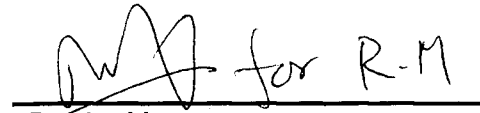
Over the next month, staff will be modeling these projects and assessing the conformity, fiscal and environmental impact implications. As called for by the tight schedule, staff anticipates completing a draft of this amendment for a 30-day Public Review by the end of April. Normally, staff would be bringing this draft to this committee for approval of its release in May. However, because SCAG's General Assembly is planned in May this year, regular policy committee meetings may not take place. Therefore, staff is recommending you delegate the authority to approve release of the draft amendment to the Executive committee in May so we can stay on schedule to meet the July 1, 2007 deadline.

REPORT

FISCAL IMPACT:

None.

Reviewed by:


Division Manager

Reviewed by:


Department Director

Reviewed by:


Chief Financial Officer

